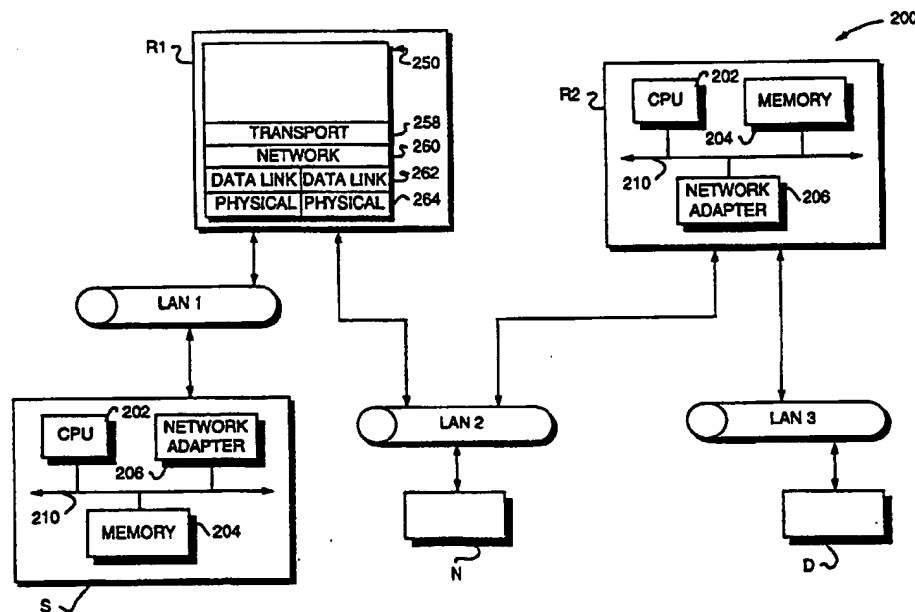




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(54) Title: NETWORK ADDRESSING ARRANGEMENT FOR BACKWARD COMPATIBLE ROUTING OF AN EXPANDED ADDRESS SPACE



(57) Abstract

An improved network addressing arrangement expands both the format of a network layer header and the address spaces of nodes coupled to computer networks in a manner that efficiently enhances routing among nodes of different domains of the networks. Specifically, the novel arrangement provides new elements to a conventional hierarchical network layer address and modifies existing elements, i.e., destination network and socket numbers, of that address to effectively create an improved network layer header.